realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

THE LION AND THE EAGLE STAND OUT AS BEST OF FRIENDS AND STRONG ALLIES

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, in the current crisis, dozens of nations have rushed to our side, not to defend America specifically, but to defend civilization. President Bush said, ''Either you are with us or you are with the terrorists.'' The world knows that is true.

But one nation stands out and their leader stands out, too. Tony Blair, the Prime Minister of Britain, has proven once again that the people of the United Kingdom are unwavering friends who will always stand with us when we are in need.

Our military men and women are facing danger today, risking their lives in the fight against terrorism. One nation's soldiers are fighting alongside them, Great Britain's. Prime Minister Blair recalled the time when Hitler was bombing London and America came to her aid. Today Britain is returning the favor.

Many nations have united to defend decency and civilization, and each is contributing in its own way; but the lion and the eagle stand out as best of friends and strong allies. Thank you, Britain. Together we will prevail.

HONORABLE DAVID TRIMBLE

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today having just come from a memorable luncheon where I and my colleagues, including the distinguished chairman of the Committee on International Relations, welcomed the Honorable David Trimble, a member of Parliament, in Washington, D.C.

David Trimble has served as leader of Northern Ireland's Ulster Unionist Party. It is one of the strongest of the parties that want continued ties to Great Britain, but it was David Trimble who led the charge for peace and was rightly recognized by the Nobel Committee with a Nobel Peace Prize in 1998.

Madam Speaker, he came today to give us sage advice that the boundaries of the world of terrorism have reached for 30 years from Northern Ireland and the Middle East into the very heart of America.

I will reflect later today on this floor about the advice that he gave my colleagues, but let me just reiterate the comments of the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), who today looked the Right Honorable David Trimble in the eye and said in a momentous tone, ''Stay engaged, David Trimble. It is men such as you that times such as these so richly require.''

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. (995)(b)), amended by section 346(e) of Public Law 105–83, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the National Council on the Arts:

Mr. BALLENGER of North Dakota,

Mr. MCKEON of California.

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that she will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 6 p.m. today.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT PUBLIC SCHOOLS MAY DISPLAY ''GOD BLESS AMERICA''

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 248) expressing the sense of the Congress that public schools may display the words ''God Bless America'' as an expression of support for the Nation.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 248

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that public schools may display the words ''God Bless America'' as an expression of support for the Nation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Con. Res. 248.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Delaware?

There was no objection.

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. BROWN), the distinguished author of this resolution.

(Mr. BROWN of South Carolina asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER), the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE), and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY) for helping me bring this bill to the floor today.

I think it is very important that we bring this up today because while more than a month has passed since September 11 there is still a great deal of anxiety in America. The events of September 11 have affected us all, whether we lost a loved one or not. The freedoms that America took for granted before this date have been shaken. Now, more than ever, many people are searching for strength and solace.

Like the rest of my colleagues, I will never forget standing on the steps of the Capitol on the evening of the attack and singing ''God Bless America.''

I am a newcomer to Congress and I have not had a chance to know each and every Member of this body very well. However, that night I felt closer to each of my colleagues than at any other time. We were all together, not as Republicans and Democrats, but as Americans united in support of our Nation.

Madam Speaker, since that time, Congress has worked very hard to take necessary action to combat terrorism on many different fronts. But on September 11, as the damage was still being assessed, I think it was important for us to come together as a symbol of unity and sing ''God Bless America.''

When I learned that some schools are being challenged for showing this same type of support for our Nation, I was deeply troubled.

The case that was first brought to my attention is in Rocklin, California where the American Civil Liberties Union wrote a letter to Terry Thornton, the principal of Breen Elementary School, calling its display of ''God Bless America'' a ''hurtful, divisive message.''

I take exception to that statement and believe the message sent by the ACLU is extremely wrong-headed. I further commend Principal Thornton for standing up for the principles of this country by refusing to take down this sign.

Pride in America is higher than I have seen at any time in my lifetime, and it seems like actions such as this are trying to dampen the spirit in our country. To threaten a public school for showing the same type of patriotism that we showed on the Capitol steps is the opposite of what this country is all about.

I introduced this resolution because Congress needs to make it abundantly clear that the kind of message displayed on the marquee of Breen Elementary is part of what makes our country great.